

## OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

October 8, 2025

Noelle Sanfilippo Regulatory Affairs Specialist Central Garden & Pet Company 1501 East Woodfield Road, 200W Schaumburg, Illinois 60173

Subject: Label Amendment - Registration Review Mitigation for Abamectin

Product Name: RF 2224 AFAB

EPA Registration Number: 89459-83

Case Number: 479452

Application Dates: July 28, 2022

## Dear Noelle Sanfilippo:

The Agency, in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended, has completed reviewing all the information submitted with your application to support the Registration Review of the above referenced product in connection with the Abamectin Interim Decision, and has concluded that your submission is acceptable. The label referred to above, submitted in connection with registration under FIFRA, as amended, is acceptable.

Should you wish to add/retain a reference to the company's website on your label, then please be aware that the website becomes labeling under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and is subject to review by the Agency. If the website is false or misleading, the product would be misbranded and unlawful to sell or distribute under FIFRA section 12(a)(1)(E). 40 CFR 156.10(a)(5) list examples of statements EPA may consider false or misleading. In addition, regardless of whether a website is referenced on your product's label, claims made on the website may not substantially differ from those claims approved through the registration process. Therefore, should the Agency find or if it is brought to our attention that a website contains false or misleading statements or claims substantially differing from the EPA approved registration, the website will be referred to the EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

A stamped copy of your labeling is enclosed for your records. This labeling supersedes all previously accepted labeling and must be used at your next label printing. You must submit one copy of the final printed labeling before you release the product for

Page 2 of 2 EPA Reg. No. 89459-83 Case No. 479452

shipment with the new labeling. In accordance with 40 CFR 152.130(c), you may distribute or sell this product under the previously approved labeling for 12 months from the date of this letter. After 12 months, you may only distribute or sell this product if it bears this new revised labeling or subsequently approved labeling. "To distribute or sell" is defined under FIFRA section 2(gg) and its implementing regulation at 40 CFR 152.3.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Caleb Carr by phone at 202-566-0636, or via email at <a href="mailto:carr.caleb@epa.gov">carr.caleb@epa.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Maryam K. Muhammad-Perch, Team Lead Risk Management and Implementation Branch 4 Pesticide Re-Evaluation Division

Office of Pesticide Programs

**ENCLOSURE: Stamped label** 

## ACCEPTED

10/08/2025

Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act as amended, for the pesticide registered under EPA Reg. No. 89459-83

COMMERCIAL LABEL
[] indicates optional marketing text

ABAMECTIN GROUP 6 INSECTICIDE

## **RF 2224 AFAB**

Alternate brand name: TruFin™ Ant Bait

Ready To Use [Easy To Use]

No mixing required

1 [can][jug][bag] treats XXX [square feet][mounds][acres] (rate equivalent to 1 lb/A or 12 mounds/A)

Treats mounds of listed ant species or the whole lawn

A dual action bait containing an Insect Growth Regulator and adulticide for control of fire ants

A dual active bait slowly kills fire ant workers while breaking the reproductive life cycle of the ants.

Two way killing action – Eliminates the fire ant colony

Eliminates fire ant colonies

Controls colonies you see and those you don't

RF-2224 kills fire ant colonies within 21 days.

Stops the development of new mounds of listed ant species

Broadcast and aerial applications

Can be used in turf, ornamentals, home lawns and landscaped areas round flowers, shrubs, and trees

Can be applied in almond, walnut, citrus orchards, grape vineyards and potatoes.

Use in commercial nurseries, tree farms, and container grown ornamentals

To control big headed ant, imported fire ant, native fire ant, pavement ant, red imported fire ant, southern (California) fire ant in listed agricultural and non-agricultural sites.

To control big headed ant, imported fire ant, native fire ant, pavement ant, red imported fire ant, southern (California) fire ant in almonds, citrus, grape vineyards, pistachios, other tree nuts, potatoes, walnuts and around areas of agricutural barns and chicken houses that are inaccessible to livestock

#### **ACTIVE INGREDIENTS:**

(S)-Methoprene (CAS #65733-16-6)	0.500%
Abamectin*	0.011%
OTHER INGREDIENTS:	<u>99.489%</u>
Total	100.000%

<sup>\*</sup> CAS No. 65195-55-3 and CAS No. 65195-56-4

1 lb contains 0.00011 lb of abamectin and 0.005 lb of S-methoprene

#### **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

See back panel for additional Precautionary Statements

NET WEIGHT:

EPA Reg. No. 89459-83

EPA Est. No.

# (Worker Protection Standard language in italics) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

Applicators and other handlers who handle this pesticide must wear: Long-sleeved shirt and long pants Shoes plus socks

Follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning/maintaining PPE. If no such instructions for washables, use detergent and hot water. Keep and wash PPE separately from other laundry.

#### **Engineering Controls Statements:**

When handlers use closed systems, enclosed cabs or aircraft in a manner that meets the requirements listed in the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) for agricultural pesticides [40 CFR 170.240 (d)(4-6)], the handler PPE requirements may be reduced or modified as specified in the WPS.]

## [User Safety Recommendations:

Users should:

- Wash hands before eating, drinking, chewing gum, using tobacco or using the toilet.
- Remove clothing immediately if pesticide gets inside. Then wash thoroughly and put on clean clothing.
- After handling this product, immediately wash the outside of gloves before removing them, then remove gloves and all other PPE. Immediately wash thoroughly and change into clean clothing.]

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS**

This pesticide is toxic to fish and wildlife. Do not apply directly to water, or to areas where surface water is present or to intertidal areas below the mean high water mark. Do not contaminate water when disposing of equipment washwaters or rinsate.

This product is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds if bees are visiting the treatment area.

#### **DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

It is a violation of Federal Law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

## RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT

For resistance management, **RF 2224 AFAB** contains a Group 6 insecticide. Any insect population may contain individuals naturally resistant to **RF 2224 AFAB** and other Group 6 insecticides. The resistant individuals may dominate the insect population if this group of insecticides are used repeatedly in the same fields. Appropriate resistance-management strategies should be followed. To delay insecticide resistance, take the following steps:

 Rotate the use of RF2224 AFAB or other Group 6 insecticides within a growing season, or among growing seasons with different groups that control the same pests.

- Adopt an integrated pest management program for insecticide use that includes scouting, uses historical information related to pesticide use, crop rotation, record keeping and which considers cultural, biological and other chemical control practices.
- Monitor after application for unexpected target pest survival. If the level of survival suggests the presence of resistance, consult with your local university specialist or certified pest control advisor.
- Contact your local extension special or certified crop advisors for any additional pesticide resistance-management and/or IPM recommendations for the specific site and pest problems in your area.
- For further information or to report suspected resistance, contact Central Garden & Pet Company at 1-800-347-8272.

(Worker Protection Standard language in italics)

Do not apply this product in a way that will contact workers or other persons, either directly or through drift. Only protected handlers may be in the area during application. For any requirements specific to your State or Tribe, consult the agency responsible for pesticide regulation.

#### **RUNOFF PREVENTION**

To protect the environment, do not allow pesticide to enter or run off into storm drains, drainage ditches, gutters or surface waters. Applying this product in calm weather when rain is not predicted for the next 24 hours will help ensure that wind or rain does not blow or wash pesticide off the treatment area. Rinsing application equipment over the treated area will help avoid run off to water bodies or drainage systems.

**Buffer zone:** To avoid hazard to aquatic organisms, do not apply **RF 2224 AFAB** within 25 feet of lakes, reservoirs, rivers, permanent streams, marshes, potholes, natural ponds, estuaries, or commercial fish ponds.

## [AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS

Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR Part 170. This Standard contains requirements for the protection of agricultural workers on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses, and handlers of agricultural pesticides. It contains requirements for training, decontamination, notification, and emergency assistance. It also contains specific instructions and exceptions pertaining to the statements on this label about personal protective equipment (PPE) and restricted-entry interval. The requirements in this box only apply to uses of this product that are covered by the Worker Protection Standard.

Do not enter or allow worker entry into treated areas during the restricted-entry interval (REI) of 12 hours.

PPE required for early entry to treated areas that is permitted under the Worker Protection Standard and that involves contact with anything that has been treated, such as plants, soil, or water is:

Coveralls

#### NON-AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements in this box apply to uses of this product that are NOT within the scope of the Worker Protection Standard for agricultural pesticides (40 CFR Part 170). The WPS applies when this product is used to produce agricultural plants on farms, forests, nurseries, or greenhouses.

Do not re-enter or allow others to enter treated areas until application is complete and dusts have settled.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

RF 2224 AFAB is highly attractive to imported and native fire ants. Worker ants carry the bait into the mound as food for the colony. The ants will then begin feeding the bait to the rest of the colony. They eat it and feed it to the queen. RF 2224 AFAB is a unique product containing a slow acting insecticide and an Insect Growth Regulator (IGR). RF 2224 AFAB has an insecticide that slowly kills worker ants while the Insect Growth Regulator prevents immature ants from growing, thereby preventing worker replacement. The lack of worker ant replacement results in colony death. RF 2224 AFAB will start to kill ants after they feed on the bait. The colony will begin to decline, after the bait has been brought back to the mound. The mound is destroyed when the queen dies. Further information regarding ants and ant control may be obtained from your local agricultural extension service.

#### **APPLICATION SITES**

**RF 2224 AFAB** may be applied to the following areas: almonds, walnuts, nut trees, citrus orchards, potatoes, grape vineyards, forestry sites, commercial and residential turf and landscapes (around flowers, shrubs, and trees), golf courses, commercial nurseries including field grown and container stock, sod farms, parks, zoos, airports, roadsides, cemeteries, sports fields, school grounds, perimeter areas of buildings, homes and other residences, sheds, kennels, perimeter areas of barns, poultry houses, swine operations, and dairies that are inaccessible to livestock, electrical and phone boxes, and pump houses.

**RF 2224 AFAB** may be used to treat pastures and rangelands when these areas are used solely to support COMPANION ANIMALS (e.g., horses, llamas, etc.). Companion animals grazed on treated areas cannot be used for food or feed. **RF 2224 AFAB** may be used on uncultivated agricultural, non-food crop and non-agricultural land. Do not allow cattle to feed on treated areas, do not allow poultry, swine or other food animals to access bait or other treated areas.

## METHODS OF APPLICATION General

Avoid applications during heat of the day or when rain is expected within 6 hours of an application. Moisture reduces the attractiveness of the bait, avoid application in areas of dew or when irrigation is planned. Wait at least 48 hours before irrigating the treated area. To limit unwanted surface runoff in outdoor ornamental uses, do not apply when growth media is saturated. Wait 7 -10 days after applying **RF 2224 AFAB** before using a contact insecticide. This allows worker ants to distribute the bait throughout the colony.

In areas of heavy infestation, repeat applications may be necessary 10 to 12 weeks following the initial application.

#### 1. Individual Mound Treatments

Treat all visible mounds with 3 to 5 tablespoons of **RF 2224 AFAB** per mound. To treat the mounds, sprinkle the adjacent areas of the mound, applying evenly in a manner to encompass the mound to a perimeter of 4 feet. Do not disturb the mound during application. Worker ants will locate the bait quickly and begin taking it back to the mound.

Note: Utensils that are used to measure a pesticide must not be used for food purposes.

#### **USE RESTRICTIONS**

**Application Interval**: When reinfestation occurs or when very large mounds remain active, mounds may be retreated 3-4 months after the previous application.

**Location Restrictions**: Do not use around chicken houses where chickens may come into contact with treated areas.

**Grazing Restriction**: Do not allow livestock to graze in any treated areas.

**Maximum Amount per Application**: Do not treat more than 12 ant mounds per acre. If there are more than 12 mounds per acre to be treated, then follow broadcast application directions.

**Maximum Amount per Year**: Do not apply more than 4 lbs of **RF 2224 AFAB** per acre per year.

## 2. Broadcast Applications

Apply **RF 2224 AFAB** to areas at the rate of 1 pound of product per acre [3.5 tablespoons/1000 ft²] using suitable application equipment. Backpack, hand, or motorized mechanical equipment may be used. Aerial applications can be made using rotary or fixed wing aircraft to almonds, walnuts, nut trees, citrus, grape vineyards and potatoes.

**RF 2224 AFAB** may be used as a preventative application to reduce the buildup of [fire] ants into unwanted areas. One to two broadcast applications per year are recommended to prevent the encroachment and subsequent development of new mounds into an area.

#### **USE RESTRICTIONS**

**Method of Application:** Only ground equipment may be used for application around barns, chicken houses, and equipment.

**Buffer zone**: To avoid hazards to aquatic organisms, do not apply **RF 2224 AFAB** within 25 feet of lakes, reservoirs, rivers, permanent streams, marshes, pot holes, natural ponds, estuaries, or commercial fish ponds.

**Maximum Amount per Application**: Do not apply more than 1 lb of **RF 2224 AFAB** per acre per application.

**Application Interval**: When reinfestation occurs or when very large mounds remain active, areas may be retreated 3-4 months after the previous application, however, do not exceed the maximum amount permitted per year.

**Maximum Amount per Year**: Do not apply more than 4 lbs of **RF 2224 AFAB** per acre per year.

**Location Restriction**: Do not apply around chicken houses where birds may come into contact with treated areas.

**Grazing Restriction**: Do not use in pastures or rangeland grazed by cattle, sheep or other animals (including horses). To avoid illegal residues, do not allow livestock to graze in any treated areas.

### **STORAGE and DISPOSAL**

**Storage:** Do not contaminate water, food, or feed by storage and disposal. **Pesticide Disposal:** Wastes resulting from the use of this product may be disposed of on site or at an approved waste disposal facility. **Container Disposal:** Plastic Bags – Nonrefillable container. Do not reuse or refill this container. Completely empty bag into application equipment. Then offer for recycling if available or dispose of empty bag in a sanitary landfill or by incineration, or if allowed by state and local authorities, by burning. If burned, stay out of smoke. Plastic Containers: Nonrefillable container. Do not reuse or refill this container. Triple rinse (or equivalent). Then offer for recycling, if available, or puncture and dispose of in a sanitary landfill or by incineration.

**WARRANTY AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:** Seller makes no warranty, express or implied, concerning the use and handling of this product other than indicated on the label. Buyer assumes all risks of use and handling of this material when such use and handling are not in accordance with directions.

NOTICE: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Central Garden & Pet Company 1501 East Woodfield Road 200W Schaumburg, IL 60173 Made in USA

PRECOR® Insect Growth Regulator is a registered trademark of Wellmark International. TruFin is a trademark of Wellmark International

For information call 1-800-XXX-XXXX or visit our Web site: [URL]

ABAMECTIN GROUP 6 INSECTICIDE

## **RF 2224 AFAB**

#### READY TO USE

Can be used in vegetable gardens\* \*do not use on edible portions of plants

1 [can][jug][bag] treats XXX [square feet][mounds][acres] (rate equivalent to 1 lb/A or 12 mounds/A

Treats up to 20,000 square feet [10 oz]

Treat the whole lawn

A dual action bait containing an Insect Growth Regulator and adulticide for control of fire ants

A dual active bait slowly kills fire ant workers while breaking the reproductive life cycle of the ants.

Two way killing action - Eliminates the fire ant colony

RF-2224 kills fire ant colonies within 21 days.

Eliminates fire ant colonies

Controls colonies you see and those you don't

Treats mounds of listed ant species or the whole lawn

[Plus] Stops the development of new mounds of listed ant species

[Plus] stops new mounds of listed ant species from starting

Controls mounds of listed ant species you see plus those you don't

Can be used in turf, ornamentals, home lawns and landscaped areas around flowers, shrubs, and trees

An Insect Growth Regulator for Control of Fire Ants

#### **ACTIVE INGREDIENTS:**

(S)-Methoprene (CAS #65733-16-6)	0.500%
Abamectin*	0.011%
OTHER INGREDIENTS:	<u>99.489%</u>
Total	100.000%

<sup>\*</sup> CAS No. 65195-55-3 and CAS No. 65195-56-4

1 lb contains 0.00011 lb of abamectin and 0.005 lb of S-methoprene

#### **KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

See back panel for additional Precautionary Statements

**NET WEIGHT:** 

EPA Reg. No. 89459-83

EPA Est. No.

#### **DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

It is a violation of Federal Law to use this product in a manner inconsistent with its labeling.

## **RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT**

For resistance management, **RF 2224 AFAB** contains a Group 6 insecticide. Any insect population may contain individuals naturally resistant to **RF 2224 AFAB** and other Group 6 insecticides. The resistant individuals may dominate the insect population if this group of insecticides are used repeatedly in the same fields. Appropriate resistance-management strategies should be followed. To delay insecticide resistance, take the following steps:

- Rotate the use of RF2224 AFAB or other Group 6 insecticides within a growing season, or among growing seasons with different groups that control the same pests.
- Adopt an integrated pest management program for insecticide use that includes scouting, uses historical information related to pesticide use, record keeping and which considers cultural, biological and other chemical control practices.
- Monitor after application for unexpected target pest survival. If the level of survival suggests the presence of resistance, consult with your local university specialist or certified pest control advisor.
- Contact your local extension special or certified advisors for any additional pesticide resistance-management and/or IPM recommendations for the specific site and pest problems in your area.
- For further information or to report suspected resistance, contact Central Garden & Pet Company at 1-800-347-8272.

#### WHERE TO USE

Throughout your yard including:

- On lawns
- Perimeter of home
- Around flowers, shrubs and trees
- Around fruits\* and vegetables\*

### AMOUNT TO USE

- Visible Mound Application: 3 to 5 Tbls for each mound
- Broadcast Application: 3 Tbls for each 1,000 square feet

Tbls = Tablespoon

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

#### **Visible Mound Application**

Sprinkle bait evenly over and around each mound in a 4 ft diameter circle. Apply gently to avoid disturbing ants.

<sup>\*</sup>Keep off edible plant parts

## **Broadcast Application**

Treat entire lawn. Use a hand held broadcast spreader.

## When to Apply

- Apply at first sign of fire ant activity.
- Avoid application during the heat of the day or when rain is expected within 6 hours.
- To limit unwanted surface runoff in outdoor ornamental uses, do not apply when growth media is saturated.
- Reapplication can be made in 10 to 12 weeks if ants reappear. [Wait 10 to 12 weeks between applications.]

#### **RUNOFF PREVENTION**

To protect the environment, do not allow pesticide to enter or run off into storm drains, drainage ditches, gutters or surface waters. Applying this product in calm weather when rain is not predicted for the next 24 hours will help ensure that wind or rain does not blow or wash pesticide off the treatment area. Rinsing application equipment over the treated area will help avoid run off to water bodies or drainage systems.

#### When to Water Lawn

- Allow lawn to dry from dew or watering before application.
- Do not water lawn for 48 hours after application.

#### **How it Works**

This product is an insect growth regulator (IGR) combined with slow acting direct toxicant in a bait attractive to fire ants. Fire ants find the bait quickly, take it back to the mound, and feed it to the queen and workers. As a result the queen cannot produce new ants and foragers die. Without new ants to forage for food the entire colony starves.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS**

Do not apply directly to water. Do not pour product or rinse water down any drain.

This product is highly toxic to bees exposed to direct treatment or residues on blooming crops or weeds. Do not apply this product or allow it to drift to blooming crops or weeds if bees are visiting the treatment area.

#### STORAGE and DISPOSAL

**Storage:** Store in original container in safe place.

**Disposal:** Nonrefillable container. Do not reuse or refill this container. **If empty**: Place in trash or offer for recycling if available. **If partly filled**: Call your local solid waste agency for disposal instructions. Never place unused product down any indoor or outdoor drain.

**NOTICE:** Buyer assumes all responsibility for safety and use not in accordance with directions.

Attention: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. For information or in an emergency, call 1-800 [phone number] or visit our Web site: [URL]

Central Garden & Pet Company 1501 East Woodfield Road 200W Schaumburg, Illinois 60173 Made in USA